



**Rhode Island Library Information
Network for Kids**

c/o East Bay Educational Collaborative
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Thomas B. Collins, Chief Information Officer
State of Rhode Island
Department of Administration
One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908

Dear Mr. Collins:

Welcome to Rhode Island ! Also, I want to thank you for the support of the folks at the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS), who helped our network of school libraries have its best year ever !

Through OLIS and its LORI delivery system, the students and teachers at our member schools got the materials they needed for research projects and curriculum units by borrowing them from other schools, public libraries, and university libraries. The OLIS/LORI delivery system made this all possible - without it, we would have no way of sending the materials back and forth between schools. The number of books and other materials flying through the delivery system to our members during this last school year increased by 25%.

The services provided to us through OLIS also include a "genius factor". OLIS uses federal funds to subscribe to online full text magazines and online databases that are available to staff members at any library that is a member of the statewide library network. This lets our school librarians look like geniuses when they can email a student or teacher that impossible-to-find, I-need-it-tomorrow magazine article. These online subscription resources also help us to find the best web resources to support curriculum needs. Using one online index, you can find, for example, a web site on Colonial America, designed with fourth graders in mind. It even includes images of original documents, maps and portraits from that era. Use of these FirstSearch databases is made possible through OLIS' membership in the New England Library Network (NELINET).

As a Cranston resident, you might like to know also that both Cranston high schools, East and West, are members of our resource-sharing network, getting the help and support of OLIS staff that, in turn, lets them better serve their students and teachers. In addition to

delivery services, we get online forms to expedite borrowing materials from public and university libraries, books and magazines to borrow from the professional library at OLIS, as well as opportunities to share our expertise with other librarians working with children and young adults.

It's great to know that such professional and patient support is only an email or a phone call away at OLIS.

Thanks again for a great year!



Dorothy Prechette,
Executive Director, RILINK

Cc: Anne Parent, Chief of Library Services, Office of Library and Information Services